

## REMARKS

### **Co-Pending Patents and Patent Application**

To fully comply with 37 CFR § 1.56, Applicants and Applicant's attorney hereby disclose the existence of the following related and commonly owned patent applications which are cited in an Information Disclosure Statement being filed herewith:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 11/208,491; and

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 11/238,895.

**Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to review the claims and the prosecution history, including any Office Actions issued by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, for the following presently cited applications, since the specifications and possibly the claims of the following applications may include common or significantly related subject matter. In particular, the Examiner is respectfully requested to carefully review the identified prosecution history of the following presently cited applications:**

U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005-0283518 A1, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 11/208,491 – no action on the merits to date;

U.S. Patent Publication No. 2006-0059253 A1, U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 11/238,895 – Office Action mailed December 13, 2007.

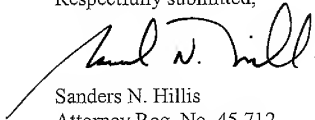
In addition, to further fully comply with 37 CFR §1.56, Applicant and Applicant's Attorney hereby disclose recent office action and/or office action responses in the following commonly owned co-pending patent applications, which were previously cited in an information disclosure statement:

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/677,134 – Office Action mailed January 10, 2008.

No additional fees are believed to be due for the submission of this Preliminary Amendment submitted with the Request for Continued Examination, however, should any fees

be deemed required, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-1925, as indicated in the accompanying Transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sanders N. Hillis", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the left.

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SNH/dlh

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